

## TRENCH BLOWN UP BY MINE OF POWDER

Tons of Explosive Used by  
Germans to Disposess  
Company of French.

### EFFECT OF THE UPHEAVAL DESCRIBED BY OFFICER

Reports Forty Men Killed and Forty  
Wounded—Praise for Bra-  
very of Survivors.

Foreign Correspondence of The Star.

PARIS, February 3.—Capt. Maurice Jean, the commander of a company whose trench was blown up by the Germans at Alger Farm, about five miles southeast of Rheims, gives in a letter to his parents an account of what such an operation really means. "It was about 4:30 in the morning," he writes, "and the moon was still shining. Suddenly a sharp fusillade was opened by the German line. Our men replied. Surprised at such an incident on a cold, clear night, I rushed out, and, with the assistance of my non-coms, succeeded in stopping the fire along our line. Then I returned to my little shelter to write a report to my major. Hardly had I begun, when I felt beneath me what seemed to be nothing less than an earthquake. I was hurled from my seat and covered with earth. The candle went out. Half asphyxiated, I managed to force a way out of my hut, though the exit was almost completely blocked.

#### Oppressive Silence Follows.

"I grasped at once the fact that my trench had been mined and blown up by the Germans. All round was the silence of death, and I felt certain that all my men had been buried alive. I rushed forward in an agony of anguish, determined to know the worst. I found that about forty of my trail-lours had been engulfed. But right and left of the space destroyed the trail-lours had not budged an inch, in spite of the avalanche which had swamped up their comrades. My adjutant, who showed splendid nerve, kept his men well under control. "At that moment a hail of shells was rained upon us. Then the cannonade ceased, and a couple of hundred German airplanes evidently convinced that not a man of us had been left alive. The adjutant's section received them with such accuracy that the enemy turned and fled, leaving many killed and wounded on the field. Three of them had even been bayoneted by our fellows.

"As soon as day broke we set to work to extricate a few of our wounded who were three-quarters buried, and later on the engineers arrived to help us reorganize our defense. I lost about eighty men in all by the explosion—forty killed and forty wounded.

#### Protected by Solid Roof.

"I had passed over the spot only five minutes before. As it was I should have been buried if it had not been for the solidity of the blocks of wood forming the roof. My unlucky cook, who was sleeping in another shelter, five feet away, was crushed to death, and so were the others close by. It took us an hour and a half to dig them out. The explosion was simply terrific and opened a yawning crater 120 feet in diameter and nearly fifty feet in depth. One could have no conception of the force of the explosion if he did not see the havoc wrought by it. The experts told us that the quantity of powder used could not have been less than seven to eight tons!"

#### TO OVERHAUL GRETCHEN.

Yacht of Sylvanus Stokes Is Taken to Baltimore.

To be given a general overhauling of hull and machinery, the steam yacht Gretchen, belonging to Sylvanus Stokes, has been taken to Baltimore where the work to the vessel will be done in time for her to go into service at the opening of the spring boating season. During the cold snap early in the year a pipe leading outboard on the Gretchen burst and considerable difficulty was had in keeping the vessel from sinking. During the summer months her owner will use the Gretchen for cruising on river and bay.

Capt. Bob Harrison, engineer of the District fireboat, the Firelight, has his power launch, Angle N, hoisted by a pile-driving machine from the water out on a wharf where she can be cleaned and painted and have necessary repairs made before returning to service with the pleasure fleet. The work of overhauling and making ready for service the auxiliary power schooner Yacht Latonia, belonging to Commodore Portner, will be started in a few days. The yacht is lying out of commission at the wharf, foot of N street. It is understood the Latonia will be used for cruising along the coast in the summer months.

#### WORK ON VIRGINIA CHANNEL.

Weather Permitting, Pile Driver Will Be in Operation Tomorrow.

Unless freezing weather comes, and this is not expected, a pile driver will tomorrow start work in the Virginia channel running line piles and those used in dredging operations to connect the pipe line to the shore. These piles were carried away by ice early in the season.

About the middle of the week the big dredge Dewey will be taken back to the Virginia channel, to a point about three-quarters of a mile above the Highway bridge, to resume dredging operations. The dredge has been lying out of service here for the past weeks. It is stated that though the amount of material originally contracted for has already been taken out of the channel by the Dewey, a large quantity must still be removed to give the channel the required depth of only one foot on low water. It will be well into the spring before the Dewey completes work in the vicinity of Georgetown.

No date has been set for the return of the army engineer service dredge Dalecarlia to work on the Eastern branch. The dredge is lying at the engineer service station, in the western end of the harbor, being overhauled.

#### Two Held on Theft Charges.

George Morgan, a clerk, of 414 11th street southeast, and William Pinkney, colored, a driver, of 1427 Good Hope road southeast, employed by W. H. Harrison of 9th and B streets northwest, were arrested yesterday afternoon by Detectives O'Brien and Mullen on six charges of petit larceny. The prisoners are alleged to have stolen goods from their employer. They will be given a hearing in the Police Court tomorrow.

John T. Stansbury, seventy-one years old, a survivor of the Baltimore Light Infantry, organized at the outbreak of the civil war for the Union army, died in that city. He was born in Baltimore and lived there for fifty years.

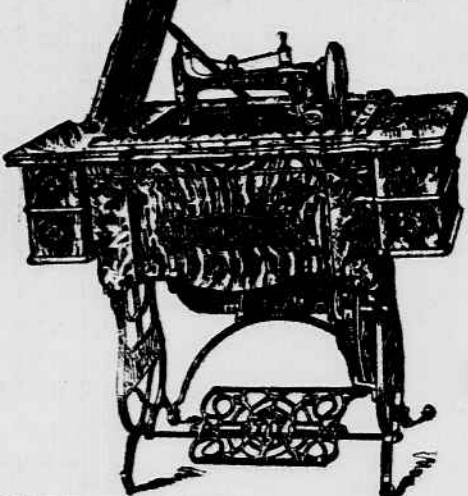
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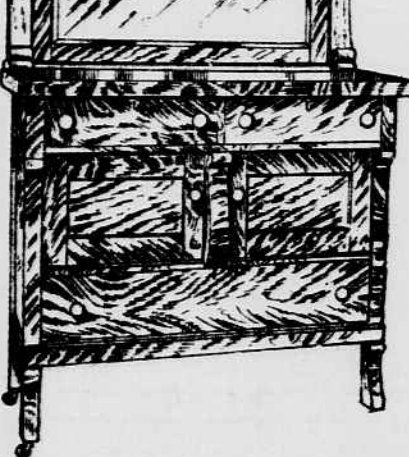
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This Exact \$29.50 Genuine Quartered Oak, Heavy Plank Top



**Buffet \$17.85**

Handsome Colonial Style Buffet, genuine quartered oak, heavy plank top, French plate mirror, plush-lined silver drawer and large linen drawer.

This Exact Baby Tray

Complete with steel spring clamps to fasten to table. A 50c value. Special at



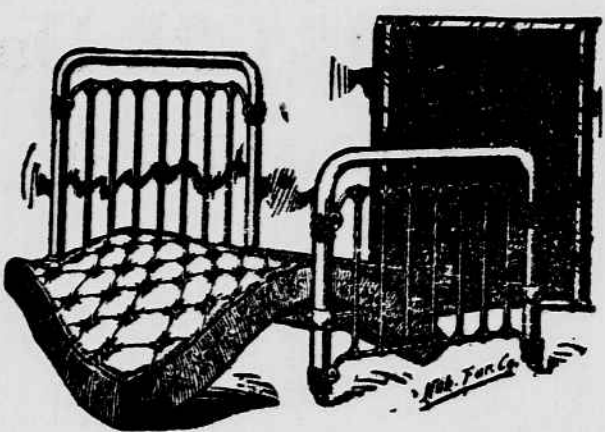
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Full Size, One-piece Steel Tray, enameled in bright colors and prettily decorated; has steel spring clamps to attach to table and cut out to fit snugly around the baby. A special value at 23c.

This Bed Outfit

Including Heavy Centinuous Post "Porcelain" White Bed, Iron Frame Woven Wire Spring and Soft-top Mattress—complete for

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THIS GENUINE MAHOGANY Bedroom Outfit

—including Massive 2-in. Post Bright or Satin Guaranteed Lacquer BRASS BED, Large Genuine Mahogany DRESSER with Shaped French-plate Mirror and Genuine Mahogany CHIFFONIER to match—all exactly as illustrated—for

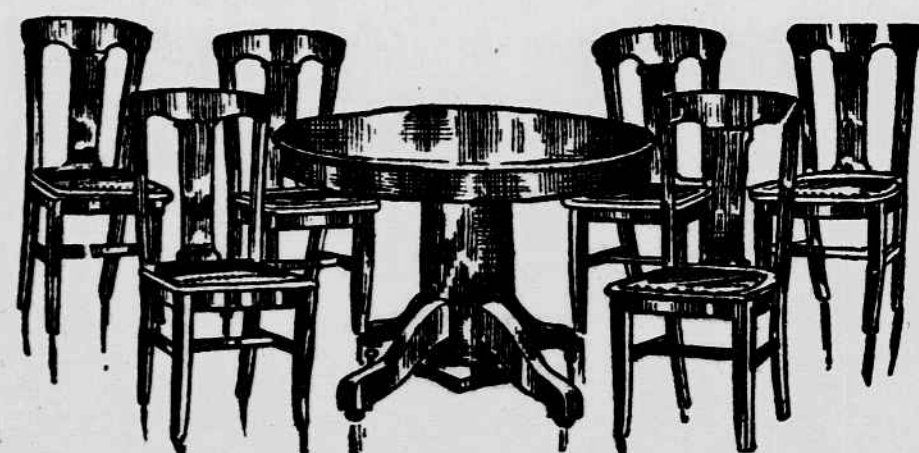
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This Dining Room Outfit

—including Full Size, Round-top Colonial EXTENSION TABLE, with quartered oak rim and massive pedestal; and six Quartered Oak, Box-frame, Imperial Leather Seat Dining Chairs — Special for..

**\$17.95**



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WE'RE keeping just ahead of the builders during this great sale —making more room as they need it—by offering our big stock of dependable Furniture at STILL GREATER SACRIFICE prices. Come and investigate the bargains. All goods are marked in plain figures. You can USE YOUR CREDIT in buying.

This \$4.50 White Enamel All-Steel Medicine Cabinet and 20 High-Grade Toilet Preparations

Total \$10.25 Value, for...

**\$2.98**



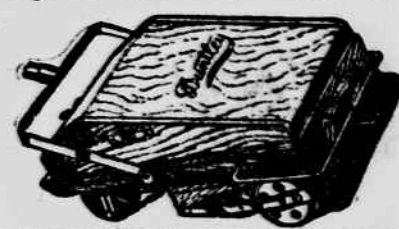
Wonderful Assortment of High-grade Toilet Preparations

Twenty different articles—all full size bottle or jar—the same as sell in drug stores throughout the country. From such famous houses as: Burwal Perfumery, Edna Perfumery, Clabelle Co., Arthur Chemical Co., Park & Co., Perfumers, Joubert & Co., Perfumers, J. B. Johnston Soap Co. (Palm Olive), 1 Bottle of Eden Tooth Wash—1 Can of Burwal Toilet Powder—

1 Bottle Eden Violet Witch Hazel—1 Bottle Eden Violet Toilet Water—1 Large Jar Arthur's Greenness Cold Cream—1 Bottle Burwal Almond Lotion—1 Bottle Eden Florida Water—1 Jar Park's Mentholated Cream—1 Cake Palm Olive Soap—1 Box Clabelle Complexion Powder—1 Box Burwal Poudre de Riz (Violet Rice Powder)—1 Bottle Lavender Smelling Salts—1 Jar Eden Massage Cream—1 Jar Eden Face Beautifier—1 Bottle Joubert & Co. Perfume—1 Bottle Eden Green Soap—1 Can Burwal Tooth Powder—1 Bottle Peroxide—1 Bottle Arthur's Rose Water and Glycerine—1 Box Eden Rouge—

THE manufacturers have given us special permission to offer our patrons this Genuine "DUNTLEY" COMBINATION VACUUM CLEANER AND SWEEPER during this Rebuilding Sale —on easy payments of 25c a week—at the reduced price of

**\$5.75**



Odd Chiffoniers

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Different styles and woods are represented.

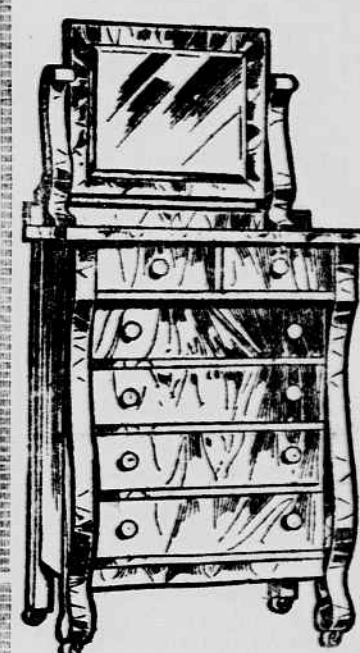
\$7.50 Values... **\$3.75**

\$12.50 Values... **\$7.95**

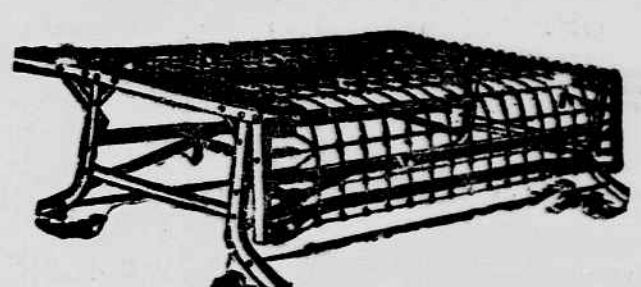
\$15.00 Values... **\$8.95**

\$20.00 Values... **\$11.75**

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This All-Steel Sanitary Couch, with best springs. Special for Monday at.. **\$1.75**



Handsome 9x12 Ft. Brussels Rugs At **\$9.75**

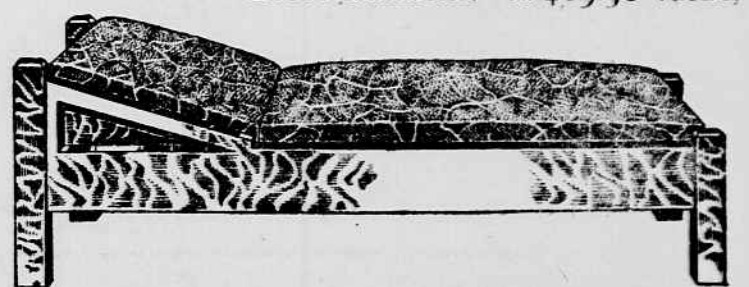
One of the many extraordinary Rug values we are offering during this Rebuilding Sale. These Brussels Rugs are full room size—9x12 ft.—and are shown in the handsomest floral, medallion and oriental patterns.



This Massive Fumed-Oak Couch

With Removable, Auto Spring Imitation Brown Spanish Leather Loose Cushions. A \$19.50 value, for

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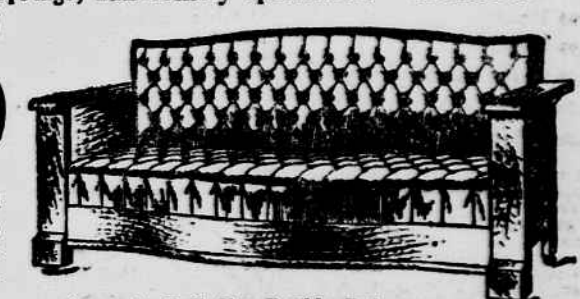


This Handsome Bed Davenport

with box couch base, best springs, handsomely upholstered. Reduced to

**\$15.65**

A handsomely upholstered Davenport by day; opens up to full size double bed at night; best steel spring construction; deep wardrobe base.



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